

Message Text

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17

ACTION SY-05

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FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4396

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUDAPEST 3262

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: SECURITY PROTECTION AFFORDED PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS AT
OVERSEAS POSTS

FOR DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY EAGLEBURGER FROM AMBASSADOR

REF: STATE 210312

1. RESIDENT SECURITY OFFICER AT EMBASSY BUDAPEST HAS
REVIEWED WITH ME PUBLIC ACCESS CONTROL PROCEDURES AND
HAS RECOMMENDED FOLLOWING SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS:

A. PROCURE AND ERRECT DECORATIVE METAL GRILLWORK
BACKED WITH CLEAR LEXAN, OR EQUIVALENT, IN
CONSULAR SECTION RECEPTION AREA TO SEGREGATE
CONSULAR STAFF FROM VISITORS. GRILLWORK AND
LEXAN WOULD BE INSTALLED FLOOR TO CEILING AND
INCLUDE DOOR OF SIMILAR CONSTRUCTION EQUIPPED
WITH SECURITY LOCK. CONSULAR STAFF WOULD
PERSONALLY MEET AND ESCORT VISA APPLICANTS FOR
INTERVIEWS AT LOCKED DOOR. NORMAL CONSULAR
TRANSACTIONS WOULD BE CONDUCTED AT OUTER
RECEPTION DESK.

B. CONSTRUCT AND INSTALL NEW CONSULAR RECEPTION DESK.
DESK WOULD BE EQUIPPED WITH METAL BACKING AND
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CLEAR LEXAN SHIELDING AT TOP WITH SPEAKER HOLES

AND PASS SLOTS FOR PAPERWORK AND PASSPORTS.

C. REPLACE FOUR EXISTING FLIMSY WOODEN DOORS IN CONSULAR SECTION WITH SOLID WOODEN DOORS WITH METAL CENTERS.

D. INSTALL ONE FIXED CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION CAMERA WIDE WIDE ANGLE LENS IN CONSULAR WAITING ROOM AREA. THE CCTV SYSTEM WOULD BE UTILIZED IN CONJUNCTION WITH PRESENTLY INSTALLED CONSULAR SECTION "PANIC ALARM" AND WOULD BE MONITORED IN NCOIC/MSG OFFICE AND RSO OFFICE TO PERMIT REMOTE OBSERVATION OF AREA.

E. IN STALL CLEAR REFLECTO-SHEILD FILM ON ALL MEZZANINE AND GROUND FLOOR WINDOWS.

F. INCREASE POST MSG DETACHMENT BY ONE WATCHSTANDER (FROM FIVE WATCHSTANDERS TO SIX WATCHSTANDERS) TO PERMIT FULL-TIME COVERAGE OF LOBBY RECEPTION AREA DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS AND CREATION OF ROVING MSG POST THROUGHOUT EMBASSY DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS. ROVING POST WOULD ALSO BE UTILIZED FOR ESCORT IN CONTROLLED AREAS, CONTROL OF SIDE SERVICE ENTRANCE, ETC. ASSIGNMENT OF ONE ADDITIONAL MSG WOULD ALLEVIATE TIGHT MSG ANNUAL LEAVE SCHEDULE AND WOULD PROVIDE BACKUP IN CASE OF MSG ILLNESS.

2. I CONCUR IN ALL SIX OF THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS AND TRUST THAT THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE OF THE SAME MIND AND WILL APPROVE ALL OF THEM. OUR POLITICAL AND SECURITY SITUATION HERE IN BUDAPEST IS VERY DIFFERENT THAT THAT PREVAILING IN MANY OTHER COUNTRIES. THE HUNGARIANS MAINTAIN A LARGE, WELL-DISCIPLINED POLICE FORCE THAT CAN MOVE WITH ALACRITY; NON-ORGANIZED AND NON-PERMITTED DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE NOT HAPPENED, AND TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS HAVE NOT YET PLIED THEIR BLOODY TRADE HERE. THE GOVERNMENT OF HUNGARY CERTAINLY POSSESSES THE CAPABILITY TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER IN EVERY NOOK AND CORNER OF THE COUNTRY; THE GOVERNMENT OF HUNGARY ALSO HAS VERY CONSIDERABLE CAPABILITY TO FERRET OUT PLOTS AND CONSPIRACIES OF ALL SORTS AND TO SQUELCH ATTEMPTS AT VIOLENCE BEFORE THEY OCCUR. THERE REMAINS, HOWEVER, THE QUESTION OF THE WILL OF THE GOVERNMENT UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES TO TAKE APPROPRIATE AND TIMELY ACTION. AND IN THAT CONNECTION WE HAVE NOTED A MODEST BUT STEADY INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OFFICIAL AND SEMI-OFFICIAL ARABS IN HUNGARY; AND WE HAVE ALSO NOTED THAT THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HUNGARY TO THE PLO IS BECOMING EVER FRIENDLIER. SO WE ENTRUST TO WASHINGTON PLANNERS WHO MUST SCAN U.S. SECURITY NEEDS ACROSS THE ENTIRE WORLD THE UNENVIABLE TASK OF DETERMINING BUDAPEST'S PLACE IN THE PECKING ORDER.

3. AT THE MOMENT WE ARE UNABLE TO PROVIDE ANY ESTIMATE

OF THE COST FOR EFFECTING THE RENOVATIONS WE HAVE
PROPOSED. BUT A LOCAL CONTRACTOR HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE
AN ESTIMATE WITHIN THE NEXT TEN DAYS; AND WE SHALL FORWARD
THAT FIGURE TO WASHINGTON JUST AS SOON AS WE RECEIVE
IT.

4. WARM REGARDS.
MCAULIFFE

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